

Abram Maury to Andrew Jackson, February 17, 1816, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

MAJOR ABRAM MAURY TO JACKSON.¹

¹ Major Reid died Jan. 15, 1816, at the house of his brother in Bedford County, Virginia. He was busily engaged writing his book and had completed four chapters when he died. After some efforts were made to find a writer to continue the work it was placed in the hands of Maj. John H. Eaton. Maj. Abram Maury was Major Reid's father-in-law. Reid was a man of ability. His part of the biography of Jackson was well written and gave evidence of good historical powers.

Poplar Grove, near Franklin, Tenn., February 17, 1816.

Dear General. Your letter of the 9th Inst is now before me—from its contents I entertain the belief that it is your opinion as well as my own that the work begun by our friend can be best finished in the Western Country, and if you think Mr. Levingston will engage in it, I know of no person who could give to it greater celebrity. In addition to the ease and Elegance with which he writes—He was for some time a member of your family, a witness of many of the great scenes to which it must refer. and near to the exhibition of many more, and if you wish to associate with him Mr. Duncan, He also stands high in my estimation, *He did so I know* with our friend. They are where they can with facility obtain information, if it should be wanted; They must have a more correct knowledge of the geography of the country, than a stranger, and freed from many difficulties, which the absence of this knowledge might embarrass others